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17 0630z

14 JUN 67 1332

NMA242

OO RUE PJS
ZNY CCCCC ZOV RUENAAA
T-ASST SECDEF PUB. AFFAIRS
DE RUQRM 01IDLV 165263Z
ZNY CCCCC
0 170630Z JUN 67
FM CTF ONE ZERO ZERO
TO RUQKR O/CINCUSNAVEUR
INFO-R UT PRC/CONSIXT HFLT
RUT PRC/CONSERVFOR SIXT HFLT
RUFRR F/COMPA IRMED
RBT ICR/AMEMB MALTA
RUEDNKA/CINCLANTFLT
RUENAAA/CNO
RUENAAA/ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEFENSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS
RUEDNKA/CONSERVLANT
RUEDSPA/CONSERVRON EIGHT
RUFPBK/USCINCEUR
ZEN/USS LIBERTY

14210

~~WTO C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

DRYDOCKING OF EE LIBERTY AT MALTA SITE PP TWO USS LIBERTY
1. DELAYED ARRIVING MALTA UNTIL 140630Z BECAUSE OF REASONS
OF PRECAUTIONARY SAFETY. ADDITIONAL SHORING OF DAMAGED
BL KHEADS WAS FOUND NECESSARY AND SPEED WAS REDUCED.

PAGE TWO RUQRM 01IDLV ~~WTO C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

2. INSPECTION OF UNDERWATER HULL OF SHIP NOW IN PROGRESS BY
DIVERS FROM USS PAPAGO. (THE DESTROYER DAVIS WITH COMMANDER
DESTROYER SQUADRON 12 EMBARKED AND FLEET TUG PAPAGO HAVE
BEEN ESCORTING THE LIBERTY TO MALTA). THE UNDERWATER
INSPECTION IS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT CHANGES
IN THE KEEL BLOCKS IN THE DRYDOCK ARE NECESSARY BEFORE
DRYDOCKING OPERATIONS CAN PROCEED.
3. ACTUAL DRYDOCKING OPERATIONS ARE NOW SCHEDULED FOR 1100Z
THIS MORNING. TORPEDO HOLE WILL BE COVERED BY CANVAS YAT
DURING DEWATERING OF DOCK AND UNTIL ALL REMAINS AND CLASSIFIED
MATTER REMOVED.
4. PAO MET WITH TEWKEBOURY OF AP LONDON, STEINMAN OF NBC ROME,
AND LOCAL NEWSMEN INCLUDING STRAINERS, EVENING 13 JUNE.
LOCAL MORNING COVERAGE LOW KEY. CAMERAMEN COVERED ARRIVAL OF
SHIP FROM POINTS IN PUBLIC DOMAIN BUT WILL BE RESTRICTED FROM
DRYDOCK AREA AT LEAST UNTIL DOCK PUMPED OUT AND ALL REMAINS/
CLASSIFIED MATTER REMOVED. THEY CAN COVER DRYDOCK FROM HIGH
POINT OUTSIDE DOCKYARD, BUT ONLY FROM PORT SIDE OF SHIP
GP-4 (FOR U.S. ADDEES ONLY)